

**House File 488 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 488

BY COHOON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to grade acceleration for students identified  
2 as gifted and talented.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.43, Code 2011, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. Procedures for the academic  
4 acceleration of gifted and talented students. These procedures  
5 shall include how the district will do the following:

6 a. Assess a student's readiness and motivation for  
7 acceleration.

8 b. Match the level, complexity, and pace of the curriculum  
9 to a student to achieve the best type of academic acceleration  
10 for that student.

11 Sec. 2. Section 279.61, Code 2011, is amended by adding the  
12 following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. A child identified by a school district  
14 or area education agency as a gifted and talented child  
15 in accordance with section 257.43, 257.44, or 257.48 may  
16 be accelerated by grade level or by subject if the child's  
17 classroom teacher and, if applicable, gifted and talented  
18 teacher, the administrator of the school building, and the  
19 child's parent or guardian approve the acceleration in writing.

20 EXPLANATION

21 This bill permits children identified by a school district  
22 or area education agency as gifted and talented to be  
23 accelerated by grade level or by subject if a child's classroom  
24 teacher and, if applicable, gifted and talented teacher,  
25 the administrator of the school building, and the child's  
26 parent or guardian approve the acceleration in writing. The  
27 bill also requires school districts to include in gifted and  
28 talented program plans procedures for the academic acceleration  
29 of gifted and talented students that assess a student's  
30 readiness and motivation for acceleration and match the level,  
31 complexity, and pace of the curriculum to a student to achieve  
32 the best type of academic acceleration for that student.